JANUARY 15, 2015

ISSUE 58

ACA IMPLEMENTATION NEWS

UPDATING YOU ON PROGRESS AND AVAILABLE RESOURCES RELATED TO THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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In This Issue!

In this issue of *ACA Implementation News,* we provide links to new partner and consumer resources, a reminder about the upcoming holiday and guidance on Marketplace verifications.

As a reminder, please send us your ACA implementation questions/suggestions so we can provide timely and relevant information to you. Questions, comments and suggestions should be sent to **ACAImplementation@hcpf.state.co.us** for inclusion in upcoming issues of *ACA Implementation News*.

To sign up for *ACA Implementation News* or the Department's ACA Communication Updates, click here.

You can also find us on <u>Facebook</u>, Twitter <u>@COGovHealth</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.



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News of Note

New Partner and Consumer Resources Available Online

The Department has posted new resources online for partners and consumers. The resources include federal <u>Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidance</u> on the Federal Income Tax and Advanced Premium Tax Credits. The IRS and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services resources explain the important tax provisions tax filers should know about as well as what to expect during tax time.

The following new resources can be found on Colorado.gov/HCPF/ACAResources:

- How Health Coverage Affects Your 2014 Federal Income Tax Return (Federal HHS Resource)
- Affordable Care Act Tax Provisions (IRS Resources)
- <u>3 Tips About Marketplace Coverage and Your Taxes</u> (Federal HHS Resource)
- Health Care Law: What's New for Individuals and Families (IRS Resource)
- No Health Coverage? What That Means for Your Taxes (Federal HHS Resource)

Consumers can also find additional information on the federal requirement to have health insurance and the individual shared responsibility payment on <u>Colorado.gov/Health</u> > Health Resources > Can I go without insurance?. The site also includes a <u>series of videos</u> from the IRS Commissioner including information on:

- What to Expect at Tax Time
- Individual Shared Responsibility Provision
- Premium Tax Credit-Changes in Circumstances

Holiday Closure

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Medicaid Customer Contact Center will be **closed** on Monday, January 19 for the state holiday and will reopen at 7:30 am on Tuesday, January 20.

Connect for Health Colorado's Customer Service Call Center will be <u>open</u> from 7 am –8pm on Monday, January 19.

Improving health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.

Colorado.gov/hcpf

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Information regarding Marketplace Verifications

Connect for Health Colorado collects and processes verifications for the cases they own through case assignment. Connect for Health Colorado maintains the following caseload:

- Cases that include Advanced Premium Tax Credits (APTC) or Cost Sharing Reductions (CSR) only.
- Mixed cases that include at least one member of a household with an APTC/CSR and at least one other household member with Medicaid (MAGI or Non-MAGI) or Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+).

For more information on case assignment please see the <u>flowchart</u> available online at Colorado.gov/HCPF/ACAResources > Tools.

If you receive verifications from an applicant or client that should be directed to Connect for Health Colorado, please encourage the individual to do one of the following (these are in order of preference):

- 1. **Upload** documents into their PEAK account by logging on using their PEAK or Connect for Health Colorado username and password. <u>Step by step instructions can be found online here.</u>
- 2. **Upload** documents into their Connect for Health Colorado account under User Account on www.connectforhealthco.com by logging on using either their Connect for Health Colorado or PEAK username and password.
- 3. **Fax** documents to Connect for Health Colorado at 1-855-346-5175. If documents are faxed, please have the individual write their Marketplace Account Number and Case ID Number on each document.
- 4. **Mail** the documents to the Connect for Health Colorado address below. If the individual mails their documents, please have them write their Marketplace Account Number and Case ID Number on each document.

Connect for Health Colorado Verifications P.O. Box 35681 Colorado Springs, CO 80935

If you have received these verifications without having had client contact, such as documents being faxed or mailed to the county office or assistance site, please fax them to Connect for Health Colorado at 1-855-346-5175. If known, please write the Marketplace Account Number and Case ID Number on each document.

Resources

New Resource Available for CBMS Users

A new resource is now available for CBMS Users regarding Reasonable Compatibility. The resource is geared towards CBMS Users and explains what Reasonable Compatibility is, how it is used in CBMS, and provides some examples of when income is considered reasonably compatible. The document can be found at Colorado.gov/hcpf/training-topics-reference-documents-and-guides > Income and Resource Eligibility > Reasonable Compatibility Tip Sheet.

Federal Provider Regulations Resources Available

New federal regulations established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) require enhanced screening and revalidation of providers enrolling with Colorado Medicaid. These regulations are designed to reduce the potential for Medicaid fraud, waste, and abuse. The Department is seeking stakeholder feedback on how to implement these federal regulations. The following resources are available online at colorado.gov/hcpf/provider-implementations: Fact Sheet, Webinar, Revised Draft Rule and Summary and Response to Comments. On February 13, 2015, Department staff plan to present an overview of the rule to the Medical Services Board during the Board's monthly meeting. The board will not be asked to vote on the rule at this time.

Reminders

Broker Assistance Available

If you are a Certified Connect for Health Colorado broker or agent and need assistance helping your client through the application or enrolling them in coverage, please contact the Broker Support Line, or the Service Center at 1-855-752-6749.

Help Desk Tickets

It is important for CBMS Users, applicants and those assisting individuals through the application and shopping process to submit Help Desk Tickets when technical issues, such as an error message or problems with navigation, are encountered. Help Desk Tickets are how issues are tracked and resolved. Resolution times vary since each issue must be researched to identify if it is user error, missed requirements, system defects, and whether there is a cost to fix the issue. CBMS Users should use their existing business process to submit Help Desk Tickets. Applicants and those assisting individuals through the application and shopping process to submit Help Desk Tickets to CBMS.Help@state.co.us.

Same-Sex Marriages and Medical Assistance

Effective October 7, 2014, Colorado began to recognize same-sex marriage. This change requires Medicaid to treat all married couples the same whether same-sex or opposite sex. For purposes of applying for Medical Assistance, a couple should be entered as married for the Medicaid eligibility determination. For additional information, please see the <u>Department's 14-017 Agency</u> Letter.